



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## San Francisco Bay Region

Winston H. Hickox  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

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Gray Davis  
Governor

Date: March 28, 2001  
File No. 2199.9026 (MBR)

Ms Ginney Lackner  
Environmental, Health and Safety Division  
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory  
One Cyclotron Road  
Mail Stop 75B-101  
Berkeley, California 94720

**SUBJECT:** RWQCB Response to Berkeley Lab's 2/20/01 letter regarding RWQCB requirements as part of the USEPA's Hazard Ranking System Evaluation.

Dear Ms Lackner;

The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) is providing this letter to clarify our position regarding the inclusion of the groundwater component in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) hazard ranking system (HRS) determination of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Berkeley Lab).

As stated in your letter, the RWQCB requires no additional groundwater sampling as part of the Tritium Sampling and Analysis Plan for the HRS. RWQCB believes the existing groundwater sampling and monitoring program under RCRA has characterized the nature and extent of the tritium in groundwater associated with the NTLF atmospheric emissions at an appropriate level in quality and quantity for use in the HRS determination.

RWQCB requests USEPA evaluate the all beneficial uses of surface water and groundwater as identified in our Basin Plan, including the domestic and municipal drinking water supply beneficial use, in the HRS determination. RWQCB recognizes that, based on information as presented in the Draft Final RCRA Facility Investigation, groundwater is not currently used as a drinking water source at Berkeley Lab or the UC Berkeley, however, evaluation of groundwater as a drinking water source should be performed to address potential future usage.

Sincerely,

Michael Bessette Rochette

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Web-site at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov>.



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